

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/053360

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 D21F7/08 D21F1/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 D21F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 541 895 A (ALBERT ET AL) 17 September 1985 (1985-09-17) the whole document	1-7, 14-30, 34,35
A	EP 0 547 816 A (ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION; ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP) 23 June 1993 (1993-06-23) the whole document	1,14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex

* Special categories of cited documents

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 July 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/08/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Helpiö, T.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/053360

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4541895	A	17-09-1985	CA 1230511 A1	22-12-1987
EP 0547816	A	23-06-1993	AT 219186 T	15-06-2002
			AU 656041 B2	19-01-1995
			AU 2980292 A	10-06-1993
			BR 9204843 A	29-06-1993
			CA 2084636 A1	06-06-1993
			DE 69232638 D1	18-07-2002
			DE 69232638 T2	02-01-2003
			EP 0547816 A1	23-06-1993
			ES 2177524 T3	16-12-2002
			FI 925514 A , B,	06-06-1993
			JP 2718611 B2	25-02-1998
			JP 7150496 A	13-06-1995
			KR 125286 B1	01-12-1997
			NO 924660 A	07-06-1993
			NZ 245360 A	21-12-1995
			PT 547816 T	29-11-2002
			US 5328757 A	12-07-1994
			ZA 9209379 A	02-06-1993

INTERNATIONALER RECHERCHENBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen

PCT/EP2004/053360

A. KLASIFIZIERUNG DES ANMELDUNGSGEGENSTANDES
IPK 7 D21F7/08 D21F1/00

Nach der Internationalen Patentklassifikation (IPK) oder nach der nationalen Klassifikation und der IPK

B. RECHERCHIERTE GEBIETE

Recherchierter Mindestprüfstoff (Klassifikationssystem und Klassifikationssymbole)
IPK 7 D21F

Recherchierte aber nicht zum Mindestprüfstoff gehorende Veröffentlichungen, soweit diese unter die recherchierten Gebiete fallen

Während der internationalen Recherche konsultierte elektronische Datenbank (Name der Datenbank und evtl. verwendete Suchbegriffe)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. ALS WESENTLICH ANGESEHENE UNTERLAGEN

Kategorie*	Bezeichnung der Veröffentlichung, soweit erforderlich unter Angabe der in Betracht kommenden Teile	Botr. Anspruch Nr.
X	US 4 541 895 A (ALBERT ET AL) 17. September 1985 (1985-09-17) das ganze Dokument	1-7, 14-30, 34, 35
A	EP 0 547 816 A (ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION; ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP) 23. Juni 1993 (1993-06-23) das ganze Dokument	1, 14



Weitere Veröffentlichungen sind der Fortsetzung von Feld C zu entnehmen



Siehe Anhang Patentfamilie

* Besondere Kategorien von angegebenen Veröffentlichungen

A Veröffentlichung, die den allgemeinen Stand der Technik definiert, aber nicht als besonders bedeutsam anzusehen ist

E älteres Dokument, das jedoch erst am oder nach dem internationalen Anmeldedatum veröffentlicht worden ist

L Veröffentlichung, die geeignet ist, einen Prioritätsanspruch zweifelhaft erscheinen zu lassen, oder durch die das Veröffentlichungsdatum einer anderen im Recherchenbericht genannten Veröffentlichung belegt werden soll oder die aus einem anderen besonderen Grund angegeben ist (wie ausgeführt)

O Veröffentlichung, die sich auf eine mündliche Offenbarung, eine Benutzung, eine Ausstellung oder andere Maßnahmen bezieht

P Veröffentlichung, die vor dem internationalen Anmeldedatum, aber nach dem beanspruchten Prioritätsdatum veröffentlicht worden ist

T Spätere Veröffentlichung, die nach dem internationalen Anmeldedatum oder dem Prioritätsdatum veröffentlicht worden ist und mit der Anmeldung nicht kollidiert, sondern nur zum Verständnis des der Erfindung zugrundeliegenden Prinzips oder der ihr zugrundeliegenden Theorie angegeben ist

X Veröffentlichung von besonderer Bedeutung, die beanspruchte Erfindung kann allein aufgrund dieser Veröffentlichung nicht als neu oder auf erfinderscher Tätigkeit beruhend betrachtet werden

Y Veröffentlichung von besonderer Bedeutung, die beanspruchte Erfindung kann nicht als auf erfinderscher Tätigkeit beruhend betrachtet werden, wenn die Veröffentlichung mit einer oder mehreren anderen Veröffentlichungen dieser Kategorie in Verbindung gebracht wird und diese Verbindung für einen Fachmann nahelegend ist

G Veröffentlichung, die Mitglied derselben Patentfamilie ist

Datum des Abschlusses der internationalen Recherche

22. Juli 2005

Absenddatum des internationalen Recherchenberichts

01/08/2005

Name und Postanschrift der Internationalen Recherchenbehörde
Europäisches Patentamt, P B 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016

Bevollmächtigter Bediensteter

Helpiö, T.

INTERNATIONALER RECHERCHENBERICHT

Angaben zu Veröffentlichungen, die zur selben Patentfamilie gehören

Internationales Aktenzeichen

PCT/EP2004/053360

Im Recherchenbericht angeführtes Patentdokument		Datum der Veröffentlichung	Mitglied(er) der Patentfamilie		Datum der Veröffentlichung
US 4541895	A	17-09-1985	CA	1230511 A1	22-12-1987
EP 0547816	A	23-06-1993	AT	219186 T	15-06-2002
			AU	656041 B2	19-01-1995
			AU	2980292 A	10-06-1993
			BR	9204843 A	29-06-1993
			CA	2084636 A1	06-06-1993
			DE	69232638 D1	18-07-2002
			DE	69232638 T2	02-01-2003
			EP	0547816 A1	23-06-1993
			ES	2177524 T3	16-12-2002
			FI	925514 A , B,	06-06-1993
			JP	2718611 B2	25-02-1998
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			KR	125286 B1	01-12-1997
			NO	924660 A	07-06-1993
			NZ	245360 A	21-12-1995
			PT	547816 T	29-11-2002
			US	5328757 A	12-07-1994
			ZA	9209379 A	02-06-1993

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44*bis*)

Applicant's or agent's file reference HPF11971 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/053360	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 09 December 2004 (09.12.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 06 February 2004 (06.02.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant VOITH PAPER PATENT GMBH		

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .1(a).																								
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet. In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.																								
3.	<p>This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 30%;">Box No. I</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report																							
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention																							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																							
4.	The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44 <i>bis</i> .3(c) and 93 <i>bis</i> .1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .2).																								

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 03 October 2006 (03.10.2006) Authorized officer <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Agnes Wittmann-Regis</p> e-mail: pt06@wipo.int
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference

HPF11971 WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

International filing date (day/month/year)

09.12.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

06.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

D21F7/08, D21F1/00

Applicant

VOITH FABRICS PATENT GMBH

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. II

Priority

1. ☐ The following document has not yet been furnished:

☐ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date in the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

The validity of the priority claim has not been considered because the International Searching Authority does not have in its possession a copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed or, where required, a translation of that earlier application. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1) is the claimed priority date.

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
1. Statement							
Novelty (N)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 50%;"></td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">YES</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">1-7, 14-30, 34, 35</td><td style="text-align: right;">NO</td></tr></table>	Claims		YES	Claims	1-7, 14-30, 34, 35	NO
Claims		YES					
Claims	1-7, 14-30, 34, 35	NO					
Inventive step (IS)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 50%;"></td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">YES</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">8-13, 31-33, 36</td><td style="text-align: right;">NO</td></tr></table>	Claims		YES	Claims	8-13, 31-33, 36	NO
Claims		YES					
Claims	8-13, 31-33, 36	NO					
Industrial applicability (IA)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 50%;">1-36</td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">YES</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: right;">Claims</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></td><td style="text-align: right;">NO</td></tr></table>	Claims	1-36	YES	Claims		NO
Claims	1-36	YES					
Claims		NO					
2. Citations and explanations:							
<p>1 Reference is made to the following documents:</p> <p>D1: US-A-4 541 895 (ALBERT ET AL) 17 September 1985 (1985-09-17)</p> <p>D2: EP-A-0 547 816 (ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION; ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP) 23 June 1993 (1993-06-23)</p> <p>2 The subject matter of independent claim 1 is a:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">"method for the modular manufacture of different types of fabrics for paper, paperboard or tissue machines, in which a construction kit of web-shaped material layers is prefabricated, and in which, as a function of the type and operating conditions of the fabrics to be manufactured, a plurality of web-shaped material layers are selected from the construction kit, stacked on one another and connected to one another at least in sections in a flat and unreleasable manner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">A method of this type is already known from document D1 (cf., in particular, column 3, lines 21-61; column 4, line 46 - column 5, line 50; figures). As a consequence, the present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1</p>							

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

3 The same reasons are valid correspondingly for independent claim 14. The subject matter of said claim is therefore also not novel.

4 Dependent claims 2-13 and 15-36 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, could lead to a subject matter which involves novelty and an inventive step. These additional features appear to be a selection of a plurality of possibilities which are known for the most part from documents D1 and D2 (cf. also international search report) or are obvious, from which a person skilled in the art would choose according to the circumstances in order to solve the problem of interest, without thereby being inventive.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference

HPF11971 WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

International filing date (day/month/year)

09.12.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

06.02.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

D21F7/08, D21F1/00

Applicant

VOITH FABRICS PATENT GMBH

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
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2. **FURTHER ACTION**

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For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
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Box No. II

Priority

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Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date in the claimed priority date.

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3. Additional observations, if necessary:

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-7, 14-30, 34, 35	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	8-13, 31-33, 36	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-36	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations:			
<p>1 Reference is made to the following documents:</p> <p>D1: US-A-4 541 895 (ALBERT ET AL) 17 September 1985 (1985-09-17)</p> <p>D2: EP-A-0 547 816 (ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION; ALBANY INTERNATIONAL CORP) 23 June 1993 (1993-06-23)</p> <p>2 The subject matter of independent claim 1 is a:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">"method for the modular manufacture of different types of fabrics for paper, paperboard or tissue machines, in which a construction kit of web-shaped material layers is prefabricated, and in which, as a function of the type and operating conditions of the fabrics to be manufactured, a plurality of web-shaped material layers are selected from the construction kit, stacked on one another and connected to one another at least in sections in a flat and unreleasable manner.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">A method of this type is already known from document D1 (cf., in particular, column 3, lines 21-61; column 4, line 46 - column 5, line 50; figures). As a consequence, the present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1</p>			

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/053360

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

3 The same reasons are valid correspondingly for independent claim 14. The subject matter of said claim is therefore also not novel.

4 Dependent claims 2-13 and 15-36 do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, could lead to a subject matter which involves novelty and an inventive step. These additional features appear to be a selection of a plurality of possibilities which are known for the most part from documents D1 and D2 (cf. also international search report) or are obvious, from which a person skilled in the art would choose according to the circumstances in order to solve the problem of interest, without thereby being inventive.